CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I):

$$(R^1R^2)\text{-}AA^1\text{-}AA^2\text{-}AA^3\text{-}AA^{3b}AA^4\text{-}AA^5\text{-}AA^6\text{-}AA^7\text{-}AA^{7b}AA^8\text{-}R^5$$

(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

the α-nitrogen of AA^1, AA^2, AA^3, AA^{3b}, AA^4, AA^5, AA^6, AA^7, AA^{7b}, and AA^8 each is, independently, optionally substituted with (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{3-4})alkenyl, (C_{3-4})alkynyl, or (C_{1-6})alkyl-C(O)-;

AA^1 is absentor the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aac, Aic, Arg, Asn, Asp, Dip, Gln, Glu, Hca, Hyp, Lys, Mac, Macab, Orn, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, Pyp and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^2 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aic, Arg, Hca, His, Hyp, Pal, F_5-Phe, Phe, Pro, Trp, and X^0-Phe Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, I-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, and Pyp;

AA^3 is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, Tmpa, Mac, Macab, and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{2-4})alkenyl, (C_{2-4})alkynyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy, Bzl, O-Bzl, NR^9R^{10}, Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, , Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, l-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, and Pyp; AA^{3b} is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Pal, 4-Pal, His, Arg, Nal, Trp, Bpa, F_5-Phe, Phe, X^0-Phe, R^{11}, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala;

AA^4 is a D- or L-isomer of an optionally substituted amino acid or of an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

wherein said optionally substituted amino acid is selected from the group consisting of Trp, Lys, Orn, hLys, *cis*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Amcha, 4-Pip-Gly, N-Met-Trp, β-Met-Trp, His, hHis, hArg, Bip, Tic, Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and 4-Pip-Ala;

wherein the side chain amino group of said optionally substituted amino acid is optionally substituted with R^3 and R^4; and

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{2-4})alkenyl, (C_{2-4})alkynyl, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^5 is absent, R^{11}, Aic, A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aib, ß-Ala, Bpa, Cha, Deg, Gaba, Ile, Leu, Nal, Nle, Pro, Sar, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Trp, Val, Pal, F_5-Phe, Phe, X^0-Phe, or an optionally substituted D- or L- isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-Pip-Gly, 4-Pip-Ala, *cis*-4-Acha,

trans-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Amcha, hLys, Lys, Orn, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala;wherein the side-chain amino group of said optionally substituted amino acid is optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^3 and R^4;

AA^6 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid, Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, Tmpa, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Ser, Ser(Bzl), hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala;

AA^7 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid, A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aib, Aic, ß-Ala, Arg, Cha, Deg, Gaba, Ile, Leu, Nle, Pip, Pro, Sar, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Val, Tic, Htic, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Dip, Pal, Sala, and X^0-Phe;

AA^{7b} is absent or a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Bpa, Phe, F_5-Phe, X^0-Phe, Nal, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Trp, hArg, Bip, Tic, Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala;

AA^8 is absent or the D- or L- isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Maa, Maaab, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Ser, Ser(Bzl), Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), F_5-Phe, and X^5-Phe, and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

R^1 and R^2 each is, independently, H, E-, $E(O)_2S$-, E(O)C-, EOOC-, R^{13}, or absent;

R^3 and R^4 each is, independently, (C_{1-12})alkyl, (C_{2-12})alkenyl, (C_{2-12})alkynyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, naphthyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{1-6})alkyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4})alkyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{2-4})alkenyl, heterocyclyl-$(C_{2-}$

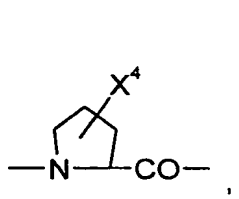
$_4$)alkynyl, 1-adamantyl, 2-adamantyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, dicyclopropylmethyl, dimethylcyclopropylmethyl, or benzhydryl;

R^5 is $-OR^6$, $-NR^7R^8$, or absent,

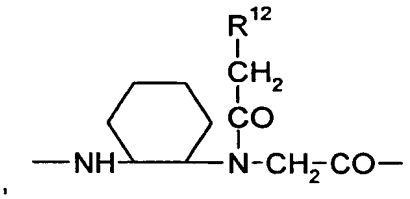
wherein each R^6, R^7 and R^8 is, independently, H, (C_{1-12})alkyl, (C_{2-12})alkenyl, (C_{2-12})alkynyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, naphthyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, 1-adamantyl, 2-adamantyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, dicyclopropylmethyl, dimethylcyclopropylmethyl, or benzhydryl;

R^9 and R^{10} each is, independently, H, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{3-4})alkenyl, (C_{3-4})alkynyl, 1-adamantyl, or 2-adamantyl;

R^{11} is, independently for each occurrence, a D- or L-amino acid of the formula:



(1)



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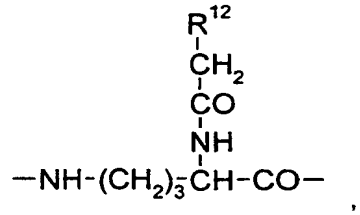

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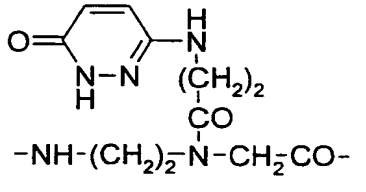

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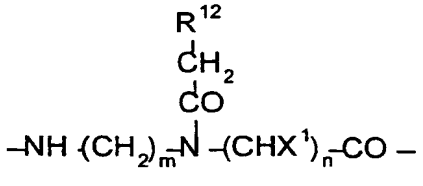
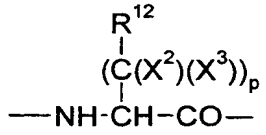


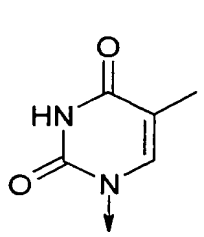
(5), or



(6)

wherein m and n each is, independently, 1, 2, or 3, and p is 0, 1, or 2;

R^{12} is, independently for each occurrence, an optionally substituted moiety of the formula: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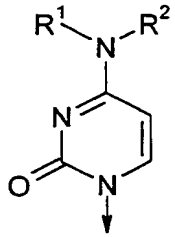
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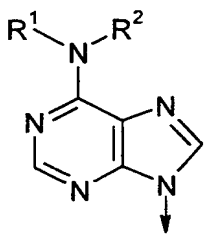
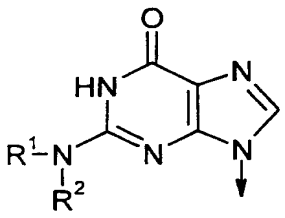
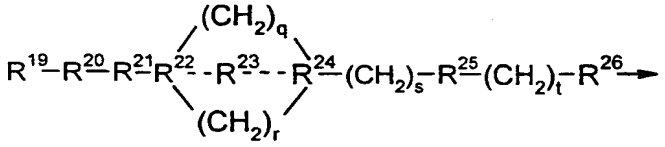

, or

;

R^{13} is a moiety of the formula


,

wherein q, r, s, and t each is, independently, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

R^{19} is absent, H, NH_2, OH, (C_{1-6})hydroxyalkyl, $N(R^{27}R^{28})$, SO_3H, or an optionally substituted moiety selected from the group consisting of heterocyclyl, phenyl and naphthyl,

wherein the optionally substituted moiety defined for R^{19} is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected, independently for each occurrence, from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, $(C_1\text{-}_6)$alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, $(C_1\text{-}_6)$alkoxy, NH_2, mono- or di-$(C_1\text{-}_6)$alkylamino, Bzl, and O-Bzl;

R^{20} is O or absent;

R^{21} is $(C_1\text{-}_6)$alkyl or absent;

R^{22} is N, O, C, or CH;

R^{23} is (C_{1-6})alkyl or absent,

R^{24} is N, CH, or C;

R^{25} is NH, O, or absent;

R^{26} is SO_2, CO, or CH;

R^{27} and R^{28} each is, independently, H or (C_{1-6})alkyl;

E is, independently for each occurrence, an optionally substituted moiety selected from the group consisting of (C_{1-12})alkyl, (C_{2-12})alkenyl, (C_{2-12})alkynyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, naphthyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{1-6})alkyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4})alkyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{2-4})alkenyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{2-4})alkynyl, 1-adamantyl, 2-adamantyl, dicyclopropylmethyl, dimethylcyclopropylmethyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, and benzhydryl;

wherein the optionally substituted moiety defined for E is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, Bzl, O-Bzl, NO_2, CN, COOH, and SH;

X^0 is halogen, NO_2, OH, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, mono- or di-(C_{1-6})alkylamino, Bzl, O-Bzl, NR^9R^{10}, or CN;

X^1 is H, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, indolyl, imidazolyl, 1-naphthyl, 3-pyridyl, optionally ring-substituted benzyl, or a moiety which corresponds to the side-chain group of Arg, Leu, Gln, Lys, Tyr, His, Thr, Trp, Phe, Val, Ala, Lys, or His;

wherein said optionally ring-substituted benzyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, mono- or di-(C_{1-6})alkylamino, (C_{1-4}) alkyl, (C_{2-4}) alkenyl, (C_{2-4}) alkynyl, and NR^9R^{10};

X^2 and X^3 each is, independently, H, halogen, OH, =O, =S, (C_{1-12})alkyl, (C_{2-12})alkenyl, (C_{2-12})alkynyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, phenyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, naphthyl-(C_{1-6})alkyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, naphthyl-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{1-6})alkyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkenyl, (cyclo(C_{3-7})alkyl)-(C_{2-6})alkynyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4})alkyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{2-4})alkenyl, heterocyclyl-(C_{2-4})alkynyl, 1-adamantyl, 2-adamantyl, dicyclopropylmethyl, or dimethylcyclopropyl methyl;

X^4 is H, OH, or NH_2; and

X^5 is halogen, NO_2, CH_3, OH, Bzl or O-Bzl;

provided that:

at least six amino acid residues are present;

when AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, or Tmpa, and AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, or Tmpa, then AA^3 and AA^6 are connected by a disulfide bond;

when AA^1 or AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Mac or Macab, then AA^8 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Maa and Maaab, and when AA^8 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Maa and Maaab, then AA^1 or AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of Mac or of Macab, and AA^1 or AA^3 is connected by a disulfide bond with AA^8;

AA^2 can be D- or L-Hca only when AA^1 is absent;

when one of R^1 or R^2 is $E(O)_2S$-, E(O)C-, EOOC-, or R^{13}, the other is H;

when R^5 is absent, then one of R^1 or R^2 is also absent, and the N-terminal amino acid and C-terminal amino acid together form an amide bond;

when one of X^2 or X^3 is C=O or C=S, the other is absent; and

said compound of formula (I) is not of the formula:

D-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Ac-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

L-4-NO_2-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Ac-L-4-NO_2-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Hca-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

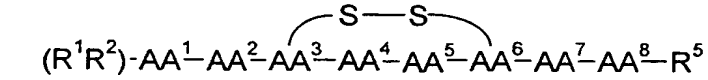
D-Dip-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)Cha-Nal-NH_2;

or

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Val-Tyr-NH_2.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is of formula (II):



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

AA^1 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aac, Aic, Arg, Asn, Asp, Dip, Gln, Glu, Hyp, Lys, Mac, Macab, Orn, Pip, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, , Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, I-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, Pyp and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid,

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^2 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aic, Arg, Hca, His, Hyp, Pal, F_5-Phe, Phe, Pro, Trp, X^0-Phe, Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, ,

Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, l-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, and Pyp;AA^3 is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa and Tmpa;

AA^4 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Trp, N-Met-Trp, β-Met-Trp, His, hHis, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid,

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{2-4})alkenyl, (C_{2-4})alkynyl, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^5 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-Pip-Gly, 4-Pip-Ala, *cis*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Amcha, hLys, Lys, Orn, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala,

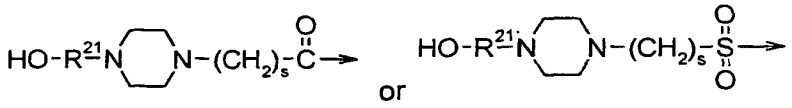
wherein the side-chain amino group of said amino acid is optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^3 and R^4;

AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, and Tmpa;

AA^7 is absent or a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aic, A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aib, ß-Ala, Arg, Bpa, Cha, Deg, Gaba, His, Ile, Leu, Nal, Nle, Pal, Phe, F_5-Phe, Pro, Sar, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Trp, N-Me-Trp, Val, N-Me-Val, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and X^0-Phe ;

AA^8 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid, Maa, Maaab, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), F_5-Phe, and X^5-Phe;

R^{13} is a moiety according to the formula

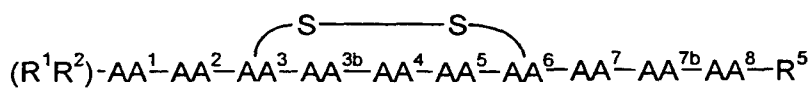


wherein R^{21} is (C_{1-4})alkyl and s is 1, 2, 3, or 4; and

X^0 is halogen, NO_2, CH_3, OH, Bzl, O-Bzl or CN;

provided that at least one of AA^7 or AA^8 is present.

3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is of formula (III):



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

AA^1 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aac, Aic, Arg, Asn, Asp, Gln, Glu, Hca, His, Hyp, Lys, Mac, Macab, Orn, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, , Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, I-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, Pyp and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid,

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, and Tmpa;

AA^{3b} is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Arg, Bpa, F_5-Phe, His, Nal, Pal, 4-Pal, Phe, Trp, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and X^5-Phe;

AA^4 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Trp, N-Met-Trp, β-Met-Trp, His, hHis, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, $(C_1$-$_4)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$_4)$alkenyl, (C_{2-4})alkynyl, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^5 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-Pip-Gly, 4-Pip-Ala, *cis*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Amcha, hLys, Lys and Orn, and, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala,

wherein the side-chain amino group of said amino acid is optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^3 and R^4;

AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen, Tpa, and Tmpa;

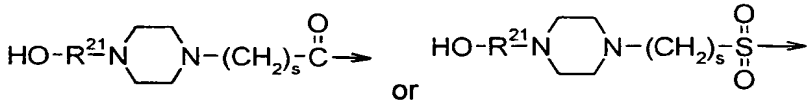
AA^7 is absent or a D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aic, A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aib, ß-Ala, Arg, Bpa, Cha, Deg, Gaba, His, Ile, Leu, Nal, Nle, Pal, Phe, F_5-Phe, Pro, Sar, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Trp, N-Me-Trp, Val, N-Me-Val, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, and X^0-Phe;

X^0 is halogen, NO_2, CH_3, OH, CN, Bzl or O-Bzl;

R^1 and R^2 each is, independently, H, E-, $E(O)_2S$-, E(O)C-, EOOC-, R^{13}, or absent;

R^5 is $-OR^6$ or $-NR^7R^8$;

R^{13} is a moiety of the formula



or

wherein R^{21} is (C_{1-4})alkyl and s is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

provided that:

at least one of AA^1 or AA^2 is present;

when AA^1 is a D- or L-isomer of Pro, Hyp, Arg, Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, , Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, I-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, Pyp or His, AA^2 cannot be a D- or L-isomer of Pro, Hyp, Arg, Pip, hArg, Bip, Bpa, Tic, Cmp, , Inc, Inp, Nip, Ppc, Htic, Thi, Tra, Cmpi, Tpr, , Iia, Alla, Aba, Gba, Car, Ipa, Iaa, Inip, Apa, Mim, Thnc, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, Dap, Agly, Pgly, Ina, Dipa, Mnf, Inic, I-Iqc, 3-Iqc, C4c, 5-Iqs, Htqa, 4-Mqc, Thn, α-Chpa, Cit, Nua, Pyp or His;

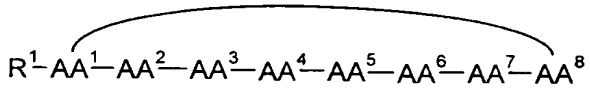
when AA^7 is a D- or L-isomer of Thr or of Ser, AA^8 cannot be a D- or L-isomer of Thr or of Ser;

at least one of AA^1, AA^2, AA^{3b}, AA^7, AA^{7b}, or AA^8 is the D- or L-isomer of R^{11}; and

when one of X^2 or X^3 is =O or =S, the other is absent;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is of formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein

AA^1 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Aic, Hyp, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Tic, Htic, Fala and an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid;

wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^2 is absent or the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of R^{11}, Arg, F_5-Phe, His, Pal, Phe, Trp, hArg, Pala, Bal, Fala, , Sala and X^0-Phe;

AA^3 is the D- or L-isomer of an optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid, wherein said optionally substituted aromatic α-amino acid is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO_2, OH, CN, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{2-4})alkenyl, (C_{2-4})alkynyl, Bzl, O-Bzl, and NR^9R^{10};

AA^4 is a D- or L-isomer of an optionally substituted amino acid selected from the group consisting of Trp, N-Met-Trp, β-Me-Trp, Lys, Orn, hLys, *cis*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Acha, *trans*-4-Amcha, 4-Pip-Gly, 4-Pip-Ala, hArg, Bip, Tic, Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, and Pala;

wherein the side chain amino group of said optionally substituted amino acid is optionally substituted with R^3 and R^4;

AA^5 is absent or a D- or L-isomer of R^{11}, A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aib, Aic, ß-Ala, Bpa, Cha, Deg, F_5-Phe, Gaba, Ile, Leu, Nal, Nle, Pal, Phe, Pro, Sar, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Trp, N-Me-Trp, Val, N-Me-Val, hArg, Bip, Tic, , Htic, Dip, Sala, Aala, Thza, Thia, Bal, Fala, Pala, or X^0-Phe;

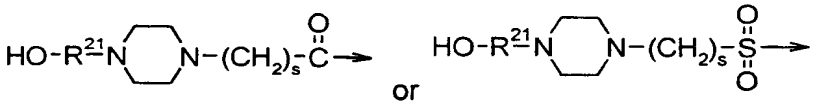
AA^6 is absent, the D- or L-isomer of R^{11}, an aromatic α-amino acid, F_5-Phe, Phe, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Ser, Ser(Bzl), or X^0-Phe;

AA^7 is absent, the D- or L-isomer of R^{11} or the D- or L-isomer of an aromatic α-amino acid;

AA^8 is a D- or L- isomer of R^{11};

R^1 is H, E-, $E(O)_2S$-, E(O)C-, EOOC-, or R^{13};

R^{13} is a moiety of the formula



or

wherein R^{21} is (C_{1-4})alkyl and s is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

X^0 in the definition of AA^2 and AA^5 is halogen, NO_2, OH, $(C_1$-$_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$_6)$alkoxy, mono- or di-$(C_1$-$_6)$alkylamino, Bzl or O-Bzl;

X^0 in the definition of AA^6 is halogen, NO_2, OH, $(C_1$-$_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$_6)$alkoxy, mono- or di-$(C_1$-$_6)$alkylamino, Bzl, O-Bzl, or NR^9R^{10};

provided that:

at least one of AA^1 or AA^2 is present;

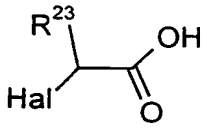
when AA^1 is absent, AA^2 and AA^8 together form a bond; and

at least two of AA^5, AA^6, and AA^7 are present;

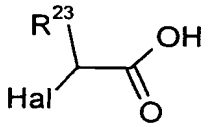
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound according to claim 2, wherein

AA^1 is absent, Ac-D-Phe, or the D- or L- isomer of R^{11}, Pip, Pro, or Ser, or of an aromatic α-amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cpa, Dip, Nal, Pal, and Phe;



AA^2 is absent, Aic, Pal, Phe, F_5-Phe, 4-NO_2-Phe, Trp, Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl)



AA^3 is the D- or L- isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Pen, Cys, hCys and Tmpa;

AA^4 is the D- or L-isomer of Trp, His, N-Me-Trp, β-Me-Trp, hTrp, or hHis;

AA^5 is Lys, hLys, N-Me-Lys, Orn, cis-4-Acha or 4-Pip-Ala;

AA^6 is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cys, hCys, Pen and Tmpa;

AA^7 is A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aic, β-Ala, Gaba, Nle, F_5-Phe, Phe, Pro, Sar, Ser, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Tyr, Val or absent; and

AA^8 is R^{11}, Nal, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), or absent;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein

AA^1 is absent or the D- or L- isomer of R^{11}, Pip or Pro, or of an aromatic α-amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cpa, Dip, Nal, Pal, Phe, and Ac-Phe;

AA^2 is Tyr, Pal, Phe, 4-NO_2-Phe, Trp, or absent;

AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys or Pen;

AA^4 is D-Trp;

AA^5 is Lys, Orn, or cis-4-Acha;

AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys or Pen;

AA^7 is A3c, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aic, β-Ala, Gaba, Nle, Phe, Pro, Sar, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Tyr, Val, or absent; and

AA^8 is R^{11}, Thr, Tyr, Nal, or absent;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A compound according to claim 3, wherein

AA^1 is R^{11}, Aic, Hca, Pro, Ser, Ser(Bzl), Trp, Tyr, or a D- or L-isomer of an aromatic α-amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cpa, Nal, Ac-Nal, Phe, Ac-Phe, 4-NO_2-Phe, and Ac-4-NO_2-Phe;

AA^2 is Pal, Phe, F_5-Phe, Tyr, or absent;

AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys, hCys, Pen or Tmpa;

AA^{3b} is Pal, 4-Pal, His, Trp, Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), Phe, or R^{11};

AA^4 is a D- or L-isomer of Trp or His;

AA^5 is Lys, N-Me-Lys, Orn, hLys, cis-4-Acha, or 4-Pip-Ala;

AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys, hCys, Pen or Tmpa;

AA^7 is R^{11}, A4c, A5c, Abu, ß-Ala, Gaba, Phe, F_5-Phe, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Phe(4-O-Bzl), or absent;

AA^{7b} is R^{11}, Nal, F_5-Phe, X^0-Phe or absent, wherein X^0 is halogen, NO_2, CH_3, OH, Bzl or O-Bzl; and

AA^8 is R^{11}, Nal, Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), or absent;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein

AA^1 is R^{11}, Aic, Hca, Pro, Ser(Bzl), or a D- or L-isomer of an aromatic α-amino acid selected from the group consisting of Cpa, Nal, Ac-Nal, Phe, Ac-Phe, 4-NO_2-Phe, and Ac-4-NO_2-Phe;

AA^2 is Pal, Tyr, or absent;

AA^3 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys or Pen;

AA^{3b} is R^{11}, Pal, 4-Pal, Trp, Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), or Phe, wherein R^{11} is (T)aeg;

AA^4 is D-Trp;

AA^5 is Lys, N-Me-Lys, Orn, or cis-4-Acha;

AA^6 is a D- or L-isomer of Cys or Pen;

AA^7 is R^{11}, A5c, Abu, Ser(Bzl), Thr, Thr(Bzl), Phe(4-O-Bzl), Gaba, or absent;

AA^{7b} is Nal, X^0-Phe or absent; and

AA^8 is Tyr or absent;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A compound according to claim 4, wherein

AA^1 is Aic, Hyp, Cpa, D-Cpa, Nal, Pal, Phe, Pro, R^{11}, Tyr or absent;

AA^2 is Phe, Trp, F_5-Phe, His, Tyr, Phe(4-O-Bzl), or R^{11};

AA^3 is a D-isomer of Trp, His, or Pal;

AA^4 is Lys, N-Me-Lys, Orn, hLys, cis-4-Acha, or 4-Pip-Ala;

AA^5 is Pal, Phe(4-O-Bzl), Thr(Bzl), Thr, Sar, Gaba, ß-Ala, A4c, A5c, A6c, Abu, Aic or absent;

AA^6 is Thr, Tyr, Ser, F_5-Phe, Cpa, Nal, or D- or L-Phe;

AA^7 is Nal, Pal, or absent; and

AA^8 is R^{11};

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A compound according to claim 9, wherein

AA^1 is Cpa, Nal, Pal, Phe, Tyr or absent;

AA^2 is Phe, Tyr, Trp, or R^{11};

AA^3 is D-Trp;

AA^4 is Lys, N-Me-Lys, or cis-4-Acha;

AA^5 is Pal, Phe(4-O-Bzl), Aic, Gaba, A5c or absent;

AA^6 is Thr, Nal, or D- or L-Phe;

AA^7 is absent; and

AA^8 is R^{11};

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^1 and R^5 are absent and the N-terminal amino acid and the C-terminal amino acid together form an amide bond; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^1 and R^5 are absent and the N-terminal amino acid and the C-terminal amino acid together form an amide bond; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. A compound according to claim 6, wherein said compound is of the formula:

Ac-D-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

D-Dip-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

cyclo(D-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr);

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A3c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A6c-Nal-NH_2;

(G(z))aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-ß-Ala-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Sar-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Gaba-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Pro-Nal-NH_2;

Pro-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nle-Phe-NH_2;

Pro-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr-Nle-NH_2;

Pro-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr-Phe-NH_2;

Cpa-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Gaba-NH_2;

Cpa-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Gaba-Tyr-NH_2;

Pip-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-NH_2;

Pip-Phe-c(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Gaba-NH_2; or

Pro-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr-NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. A compound according to claim 6, wherein said compound is according to the formula:

Phe-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-NH_2;

Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Ac-D-Phe-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Thr-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A3c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A6c-Nal-NH_2;

(G(z))aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

D-Cpa-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-ß-Ala-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Sar-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Aic-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Gaba-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Pro-Nal-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-(A)aeg-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A4c-Nal-NH_2;

Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Pro-Phe-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-NH_2;

Pro-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Val-NH_2;

Pip-4-NO2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nle-NH_2;

(G)aeg-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-(C)aeg-NH_2; or

(C)aeg-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-(G)aeg-NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. A compound according to claim 8, wherein said compound is according to the formula

Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Phe-cyclo(Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Ac-D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Tyr-NH_2;

Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Pro-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Nal-NH_2;

Ser(Bzl)-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(A)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(G)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-4-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-A5c-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Tyr-NH_2;
D-Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
D-Cpa-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(Pen-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Trp-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Orn-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-hLys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Iamp-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Cha(4-am)-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-D-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Trp-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Pen)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Ina-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Mnf-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Inp-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Nua-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-Pal-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-Pal-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Tyr(Bzl)-Thr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2; or

(T)aeg-D-Trp-c(D-Cys-Pal-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Leu-NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A compound according to claim 8, wherein said compound is according to the formula

Hca-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Ac-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Ac-D-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Ac-D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Phe-cyclo(Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

Ac-D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Pro-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Nal-NH_2;

Ser(Bzl)-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(C)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

Aic-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(C(z))aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(A(z))aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(A)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(G)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-4-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-A5c-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Tyr-NH_2;

D-Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-p-Me-Phe-NH_2;

Ac-(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

D-Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;

(A)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2; (C)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(C)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

D-Cpa-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(Pen-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Trp-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Orn-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-hLys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Iamp-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Cha(4-am)-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-D-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Trp-NH_2;
(T)aeg-c(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Pen)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Ina-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Mnf-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Inp-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Nua-c(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-Pal-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-Pal-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Tyr(Bzl)-Thr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-Phe-c(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2; or
(T)aeg-D-Trp-c(D-Cys-Pal-Lys-D-Cys)Thr(Bzl)-Leu-NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. A compound according to claim 10, wherein said compound is according to the formula

cyclo(Trp-D-Trp-Lys-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-Phe-(T)aeg);
cyclo(Trp-D-Trp-Lys-Pal-Phe -(T)aeg); or
cyclo(Phe-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-Thr-(T)aeg);

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. A method of eliciting a neuromedin B receptor agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 13 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. A method of eliciting a somatostatin receptor agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to

said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. A method of eliciting a neuromedin B receptor agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. A method of eliciting a somatostatin receptor agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 16 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. A method of eliciting a somatostatin receptor agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 17 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, provided said compound is not

cyclo(Trp-D-Trp-Lys-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-Phe-(T)aeg); or

cyclo(Trp-D-Trp-Lys-Pal-Phe -(T)aeg).

23. A method of eliciting a SSTR-1 agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, provided said compound is not

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Abu-Nal-NH_2;

Dip-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;

Nal-Tyr-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Val-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A3c-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A6c-Nal-NH_2;
(G(z))aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
D-Cpa-cyclo(Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-ß-Ala-Nal-NH_2;
cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-A5c-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Sar-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Aic-Nal-NH_2;
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Gaba-Nal-NH_2; or
Cpa-Pal-cyclo(D-Cys-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Pro-Nal-NH_2.

24. A method of eliciting a SSTR-1 agonist effect in a subject in need thereof, wherein said method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 16 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof provided said compound is not

Ac-D-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;
Ac-D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;
D-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;
Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;
D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Nal-NH_2;
D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-NH_2;
D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
D-4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;

4-NO_2-Phe-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
D-Nal-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Pro-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Nal-NH_2;
Ser(Bzl)-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(C)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
Aic-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-D-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(A)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(G)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-4-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Tyr-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Phe-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Ser(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Phe(4-O-Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-A5c-Tyr-NH_2;
(T)aeg-cyclo(D-Cys-Pal-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Abu-Tyr-NH_2; or
D-Cpa-cyclo(D-Cys-(T)aeg-D-Trp-Lys-Cys)-Thr(Bzl)-Tyr-NH_2.

25. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. A method of treating a disease in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, wherein said disease is selected from the list consisting of lung cancer, glioma, anorexia, hypothyroidism,

hyperaldosteronism, H. pylori proliferation, acromegaly, restenosis, Crohn's disease, systemic sclerosis, external and internal pancreatic pseudocysts and ascites, VIPoma, nesidoblastosis, hyperinsulinism, gastrinoma, Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome, diarrhea, AIDS related diarrhea, chemotherapy related diarrhea, scleroderma, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, pancreatitis, small bowel obstruction, gastroesophageal reflux, duodenogastric reflux, Cushing's Syndrome, gonadotropinoma, hyperparathyroidism, Graves' Disease, diabetic neuropathy, Paget's disease, polycystic ovary disease, thyroid cancer, hepatome, leukemia, meningioma, cancer cachexia, orthostatic hypotension, postprandial hypotension, panic attacks, GH secreting adenomas, Acromegaly, TSH secreting adenomas, prolactin secreting adenomas, insulinoma, glucagonoma, diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidemia, insulin insensitivity, Syndrome X, angiopathy, proliferative retinopathy, dawn phenomenon, Nephropathy, gastric acid secretion, peptic ulcers, enterocutaneous fistula, pancreaticocutaneous fistula, Dumping syndrome, watery diarrhea syndrome, pancreatitis, gastrointestinal hormone secreting tumor, angiogenesis, arthritis, allograft rejection, graft vessel bleeding, portal hypertension, gastrointestinal bleeding, obesity, and opioid overdose.